## Appendix W DISSOLUTION OF A COMMITTEE

The Campaign Finance Act specifies when and under what conditions a committee may be dissolved. A dissolved committee has no further filing obligations under the Act. All committees are encouraged to request dissolution when activity in the committee ends. A committee that has not been dissolved and does not have a Reporting Waiver must continue to file Campaign Statements as required by the Act.

To be eligible for dissolution, a committee must have no assets or outstanding debts. An unpaid late filing fee is considered to be a committee debt and must be paid before the committee can be dissolved. (An officeholder cannot dissolve his or her Candidate Committee until his or her term of office expires. An exception to this provision exists for officeholders who are not qualified to seek reelection).

- If the committee has maintained a Reporting Waiver, dissolution may be requested by filing a Single-Page Dissolution Statement with their filing official. On the Statement, the signers verify that the committee: 1.) Obtained and maintained the Reporting Waiver; 2.) Has no outstanding late filing fees or other debts; and 3.) Has no remaining assets.
  - <u>Automatic Dissolution of Candidate Committees</u>: The filing official may automatically dissolve a Candidate Committee with a Reporting Waiver when an officeholder vacates office or an individual is defeated in the election, providing the committee meets all of the requirements to dissolve. A committee that qualifies for automatic dissolution will not be dissolved if the candidate expresses a desire, in writing, to keep the committee active.
- If the committee does not have a Reporting Waiver, dissolution may be requested by filing a final Campaign Statement with supporting Schedules with their filing official. A Dissolution Campaign Statement can be combined with another Campaign Statement required of the committee as long as the committee dissolves on or before the closing date of the Campaign Statement. A Dissolution Campaign Statement must open on the day after the closing date of the last Campaign Statement filed by the committee and close on the date of the committee's dissolution.

## Disposition of Unexpended Funds

Independent, Political, Ballot Question and Political Party Committees may dispose of leftover funds in any legal manner.

Unexpended funds of a Candidate Committee that are not eligible for transfer to another Candidate Committee of the person must be disbursed in the following ways.

- a) Given to a Political Party Committee (state central, congressional district or county).
- b) Given to a tax-exempt charitable organization as long as the candidate does not become an officer or director of or receive compensation, either directly or indirectly, from that organization. \*
- c) Returned to contributors of the funds.
- d) Given to a House Political Party Caucus Committee if the person was a candidate for the office of State Representative. (Maximum contribution of \$20,000.00 per year allowed).
- e) Given to a Senate Political Party Caucus Committee if the person was a candidate for the office of State Senator. (Maximum contribution of \$20,000.00 per year allowed).

- f) Given to an Independent Committee.
- g) Given to a Ballot Question Committee.

<sup>\*</sup>A committee that chooses to donate any of its remaining assets to a tax-exempt charity must provide verification of the disposition of the funds to their filing official. This verification can be in the form of a receipt or letter of acknowledgement on the charity's letterhead.